



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 27, 2015

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**Governor Baker Lifts Travel Ban for Berkshire, Franklin,
Hampshire, and Hampden Counties**

Travel ban lifted for I-91; remains in effect for MassPike

FRAMINGHAM – Governor Charlie Baker has announced that the statewide travel ban has been lifted for Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties for local and I-91 traffic only, effective immediately. The travel ban remains in effect for the entire length of the Massachusetts Turnpike, Interstate 90, and for Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Essex, Middlesex, Nantucket, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk, and Worcester Counties with only essential workers, healthcare and human service professionals and others specifically exempted, permitted to travel. The travel ban will be lifted based on road conditions and the advice of emergency response officials.

Since the statewide travel ban took effect last night at midnight, snowfall was less than anticipated in western counties, thus allowing the partial lifting of the travel ban. The storm continues to hit Central and Eastern Massachusetts, with power out in all of Nantucket.

Individuals are still urged to use their best judgment and be cautious on roadways and avoid unnecessary travel to allow for emergency response and road clearing efforts to continue.

Exceptions to the statewide travel ban have been made for the following:

- Essential emergency response professionals
- Medical, healthcare and human service workers, including shelter personnel
- Essential public transit and support workers

- Public and private personnel supporting public works and utility operations
- Essential state employees
- Those traveling for essential medical procedures
- Vehicles and personnel delivering essential supplies to healthcare facilities.

Individuals, families and businesses are encouraged to check www.mass.gov/mema for critical updates and direct general questions to the 24-hour citizen information telephone line by dialing 2-1-1.

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